

COUNTRY Hungary

REPORT NO. *1130*

TOPIC Soviet Air Force Units in Papa

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT Late December 1950

DATE OBTAINED 25X1C DATE PREPARED 1 June 1951

REFERENCES 25X1A

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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SOURCE

1. The former Evangelical College opposite the Reformed Church in Papa (P 48/Y 30) was occupied by approximately 1,600 Soviet soldiers wearing black-bordered blue berets. The College building is a three-story L-shaped structure, which has a kitchen, mess rooms, 12 classrooms, an office, two music rooms, a large hall, and a gymnasium. About 12 Soviet 3-ton trucks were seen in the yard of the building.

25X1A 2. [REDACTED] there, the Castle in Esterhazy was occupied by a high-echelon Soviet Air Force headquarters, allegedly responsible for all Hungary and the Soviet Zone of Austria. * The ranking officer was a general. Two radio masts, each about 12 meters high and fitted with antennas, were seen in the yard of the Castle. The occupation of the building was estimated at 2,000 to 3,500 men.

25X1A 3. [REDACTED] Soviet units were stationed at the Papa airfield. ** According to Hungarian soldiers, the service color worn by the Hungarian Air Force is blue with white pipings. Two crossed propellers were worn on the collar patches.

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* [REDACTED] Comment. This statement is believed to refer to a Soviet corps or division headquarters, possibly the headquarters of a fighter corps to which the fighter squadron stationed in Trauersdorf and Wiener Neustadt is also assigned. There can be no doubt that the headquarters and the air unit in Papa are assigned to the Second Air Army whose headquarters is in Liesnig near Vienna. It has not been possible to obtain a clear picture of the distribution of the Soviet Air Force units in North-West Hungary.

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** [REDACTED] Comment. Exclusively Soviet Air Force units are stationed in Papa. From previous information at least two fighter regiments were believed to be stationed there. In January 1951, a Hungarian refugee observed about 80 single-engine planes at the field while riding in a train past the installation. According to a report published in the Hungaria on 2 February 1951, Yak-9 fighters and fighter bomber planes were stationed in Papa. The same source reported that a sizable number of jet fighters allegedly arrived in Papa in December 1950. The field is equipped with very long runways. See [REDACTED] It must therefore be assumed that part of the units stationed in Papa are being reequipped with jet fighters.

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